

PubMed

COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation.

Get the latest public health information from CDC: <https://www.coronavirus.gov>.Get the latest research from NIH: <https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus>.

Full text links

IOS  
Press Full Text

Format: Abstract

*J Alzheimers Dis.* 2017;56(2):805-815. doi: 10.3233/JAD-160675.

## The Effect of the Association between Donepezil and Choline Alfoscerate on Behavioral Disturbances in Alzheimer's Disease: Interim Results of the ASCOMALVA Trial.

Carotenuto A<sup>1,2</sup>, Rea R<sup>1,2</sup>, Traini E<sup>1</sup>, Fasanaro AM<sup>2</sup>, Ricci G<sup>3</sup>, Manzo V<sup>2</sup>, Amenta F<sup>1</sup>.

### Author information

### Abstract

**BACKGROUND:** Behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia (**BPSD**) are a group of psychological reactions, psychiatric symptoms, and behaviors commonly found in Alzheimer's disease (AD). Four clusters of **BPSD** have been described: mood disorders (depression, anxiety, and apathy), psychotic symptoms (delusions and hallucinations), aberrant motor behaviors (pacing, wandering, and other purposeless behaviors), and inappropriate behaviors (agitation, disinhibition, and euphoria). Most of them are attributed to acetylcholine deficiency.

**OBJECTIVE:** To evaluate if a higher amount of acetylcholine obtained by associating donepezil and choline alfoscerate might have a favorable effect on **BPSD**.

**METHODS:** **BPSD** were measured at baseline and after 24 months in 113 mild/moderate AD patients, included in the double-blind randomized trial ASCOMALVA, by the Neuropsychiatric Inventory (NPI). Two matched groups were compared: group A treated with donepezil (10mg/day) plus choline alfoscerate (1200mg/day), and group B treated with donepezil (10mg/day) plus placebo.

**RESULTS:** Data of NPI revealed a significant decrease of **BPSD** severity and distress of the caregiver in patients of group A compared with group B. Mood disorders (depression, anxiety and apathy) were significantly decreased in subjects treated with donepezil and choline alfoscerate, while their severity and frequency was increased in the other group.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Patients treated with donepezil plus choline alfoscerate showed a lower level of behavioral disturbances than subjects treated with donepezil only, suggesting that the association

can have beneficial effects.

**KEYWORDS:** Alzheimer's disease; behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia; choline alphoscerate; donepezil; neuropsychiatric symptoms

PMID: 28035924 DOI: [10.3233/JAD-160675](https://doi.org/10.3233/JAD-160675)

[Indexed for MEDLINE]

**Publication type, MeSH terms, Substances**

**LinkOut - more resources**